



STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
1 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0001

Paul R. LaPage  
GOVERNOR

February 13, 2018

The Honorable Scott Pruitt, Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of the Administrator 1101A  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

**RE: US Renewable Fuel Standard – Bio Intermediates**

Dear Administrator Pruitt,

Given the potential positive impact on our forestry activities, the State of Maine strongly supports the US Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS), particularly mandates for cellulosic biofuels. Liquid cellulosic "biocrude" can be produced cost-effectively from forestry and mill residues at sites close to forests, then delivered to refineries, where it can be co-processed with petroleum to produce renewable cellulosic transportation fuels. Biocrude co-processing in refineries is particularly important, since it is compatible with petroleum industry operations. At the same time, it creates a very significant market for liquid cellulosic fuels produced from forest residues.

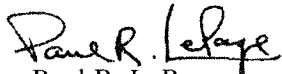
As we understand the current interpretation of the RFS regulations, if a biocrude "intermediate" biofuel product is produced near forestry operations, then delivered to a refinery at a second location to produce gasoline and diesel transportation fuels, the refiner is not permitted to get credit for the renewable content of the resulting products from co-processing. This regulatory hurdle is referred to as the "bio-intermediates issue". Draft regulations that would have resolved the bio-intermediates issue were published in late 2016. Although the comment period ended months ago, final regulations have not been issued. Finalizing these regulations would benefit both the forestry industry and the refineries that are seeking cost effective means to satisfy the RFS requirements.

I am writing to express my strong support for the resolution of the regulatory hurdles to refinery co-processing under the RFS program as an effective means to secure and maintain forest industry operations and jobs in rural Maine, where the forest industry has experienced a steady decline. As you may be aware, co-processing is a practice in industry where cellulosic liquids produced from forest industry and mill residues are fed together with conventional petroleum feedstocks in existing refineries to produce diesel and gasoline transportation fuels. This type of enterprise can provide a new pathway for significant economic value in the forest industry while at the same time enhancing America's energy security and creating domestic employment.



Resolving the bio-intermediates issue is a key to the success of two significant industries. The State strongly urges the EPA Administrator to address this issue as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

  
Paul R. LePage  
Governor

Cc: Hon. William Wehrum, Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation, EPA

MATTHEW H. MEAD  
GOVERNOR

THE STATE OF WYOMING



2323 Carey Avenue  
CHEYENNE, WY 82002

## Office of the Governor

February 12, 2018

Scott Pruitt  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Mail Code 1101A  
Washington, DC 20460

Re: EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0545 State Guidelines for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Existing  
Electric Utility Generating Units – Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

Dear Administrator Pruitt,

I request the comment period regarding a replacement rule to the Clean Power Plan be extended to April 27, 2018 or later. Wyoming continues to have concerns with the Clean Power Plan in its current form. Under the Clean Power Plan, Wyoming coal plants are required to reduce their emissions of carbon dioxide by 44%, one of the highest reductions imposed on any state. I appreciate the EPA proposed repeal of the Clean Power Plan. I also appreciate the Agency's work to draft a new regulation to replace the Clean Power Plan. All stakeholders will benefit from additional time to review and thoughtfully consider these rules.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew H. Mead", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Matthew H. Mead  
Governor

MHM:dp

AL-18-000-2015



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR  
REGION 5  
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

FEB 14 2018

The Honorable Suzanne Crouch  
Lieutenant Governor of Indiana  
State House, Room 333  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Dear Lt. Governor Crouch:

Thank you for your November 16, 2017 letter regarding the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) policies.

The RFS program plays a significant role in both fuel and agriculture policy in the United States, especially in states like Indiana, where the biofuels industry is an integral part of a healthy rural economy. We understand the importance of the program to multiple stakeholders, including companies and communities throughout the country. EPA is committed to successfully implementing the program, which entails adhering to the requirements of the law while simultaneously recognizing the marketplace challenges that affect the use and expansion of renewable fuel. We will continue striving to improve our implementation of the program and appreciate your input on this important policy.

Ensuring we meet statutory deadlines under the program is a key element of our RFS implementation. The Clean Air Act requires EPA to set the RFS volume requirements annually and to finalize the standards by November 30<sup>th</sup> each year. On November 30, 2017, EPA finalized a rule that established the required renewable fuel volumes under the RFS program for 2018, and biomass-based diesel for 2019. We took this final action after reviewing comments and information provided by stakeholders and the public on the proposed rule. More information on the final volume requirements can be found on EPA's website at:

<https://www.epa.gov/renewable-fuel-standard-program/final-renewable-fuel-standards-2018-and-biomass-based-diesel-volume>.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Eileen Deamer or Ronna Beckmann, the Region 5 Congressional Liaisons, at (312) 886-3000.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cathy Stepp", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Cathy Stepp  
Regional Administrator

standard bcc's:      official file copy w/attachment (s)  
                            originator's file copy w/attachment (s)  
                            originating organization reading file w/attachment (s)

other bcc's:          OCIR  
                            OAR



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900  
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

OFFICE OF THE  
REGIONAL  
ADMINISTRATOR

February 22, 2018

The Honorable Bill Walker  
Governor of Alaska  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 110001  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

Dear Governor Walker:

Thank you for your letter dated December 20, 2017, to Mr. Scott Pruitt, Administrator for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency about regulatory relief for rural Alaska prime power diesel engines. Administrator Pruitt has asked me to respond to you on his behalf.

In your letter, you requested that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency rescind the particulate matter emission control device requirement for 2014 model year and later stationary diesel engines in remote areas of Alaska in 40 CFR 60.4216. You explained that it is extremely difficult to operate and maintain particulate filters on prime power diesel engines in remote areas of Alaska because of cost, complexity, and unreliability. According to your letter, rural utilities are choosing to install older used engines to avoid the use of particulate filters.

Given the dependency of remote villages on these engines for prime power, we are taking this request very seriously. On February 21, 2018, my staff and EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning staff had a teleconference with representative from the Alaska Energy Authority and Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. We gained a better understanding of the specific concerns and requested additional information that we will need to contemplate and support any rule changes. We will continue to work closely with your Agencies and our EPA offices to expeditiously develop and implement a fix that is both technically and legally supported.

Again, thank you for bringing this to our attention. Please let us know how we can ensure you are adequately updated on our progress. Feel free to contact me or have your staff contact David Bray, Associate Director, Office of Air and Waste, at [bray.dave@epa.gov](mailto:bray.dave@epa.gov) or at (206) 553-4253.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Hladick", is positioned above the printed name.

Chris Hladick  
Regional Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

February 8, 2018

The Honorable Christopher T. Sununu  
Governor of New Hampshire  
State House  
107 North Main Street  
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Governor Sununu:

Thank you for your January 24 letter to Administrator Pruitt about Great Bay permitting issues. The Administrator has asked me to respond to you on his behalf.

EPA recognizes and appreciates the significant and meaningful investments that New Hampshire communities have made to reduce nitrogen discharges to Great Bay. We share your interest in ensuring that continuing investments are guided by the best available science about the Bay's health and ecology. On February 6, Dave Ross, EPA's Assistant Administrator for Water and I met with members of the Great Bay Coalition to discuss these issues. The discussion was productive, collaborative, and amicable, and the group agreed to several cooperative follow-up steps, including further discussions to ensure that we are all sharing the latest scientific information about Great Bay.

EPA is committed to continue to engage these communities and the public in this ongoing dialogue based on outcomes and results. We know that permitting decisions have important consequences for communities, and we will maintain active communications with them as the permitting process unfolds. We will also continue to work closely with the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES). Commissioner Bob Scott participated in the February 6 meeting; we highly value DES's engagement and believe it is very important that we continue to work together on these permits. We also appreciate the strong interest in this meeting shown by the participation of your Senate and House delegations' staff and our related meeting with representatives of the Conservation Law Foundation.

Thank you for your interest and commitment. I look forward to working with New Hampshire on these issues, which are so important to the state's environmental and economic future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Alexandra Dapolito Dunn".

Alexandra Dapolito Dunn  
Regional Administrator





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

February 14, 2018

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Jay Inslee  
Governor of Washington  
P.O. Box 40002  
Olympia, Washington 98504-0002

Dear Governor Inslee:

Thank you for your letter of October 30, 2017, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting a public hearing in Seattle for the proposed repeal of the Carbon Pollution Emission Guidelines for Existing Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units (commonly known as the Clean Power Plan).

The Clean Power Plan repeal proposal was published on October 16, 2017. EPA held a public hearing for this proposed action on November 28 and 29, 2017, in Charleston, West Virginia. Recently EPA announced three listening sessions to provide additional opportunities to hear from the public. The sessions will be in Kansas City, Missouri on February 21, San Francisco on February 28, and Gillette, Wyoming on March 27. EPA also is re-opening the public comment period; comments now will be accepted through April 26, 2018. As we develop the final rule, we will review all comments received, including testimony from the public hearing and the upcoming listening sessions. Written statements and supporting information submitted during the public comment period will be considered with the same weight as any oral comments and supporting information presented at the listening sessions.

For the latest information about the proposed repeal, including additional information on the listening sessions, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/electric-utility-generating-units-repealing-clean-power-plan>.

Again, thank you for your letter. We appreciate your interest in this important topic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "W L Wehrum", is positioned above the printed name.

William L. Wehrum  
Assistant Administrator